

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JULY 1999

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in July was 319,448 metric tons. The average daily production rate was 10,305 tons, slightly lower than that of the previous month but slightly greater than that of July 1998.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 63.1 cents per pound (¢/lb) in June to 67.5¢/lb in July, according to Platt's Metals Week. According to American Metal Market, the buying price range for processed aluminum used beverage can (UBC) scrap increased from 46 to 47¢/lb to a range of 48 to 50¢/lb on July 9. The price remained at this level through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the monthly average transaction price for aluminum UBC's increased from 48.1¢/lb in June to 51.4¢/lb in July.

U.S. Trade Through June

Total imports for consumption of aluminum for the first half of 1999 increased 18% compared with the total for the first half of 1998. Imports were higher in all three subcategories detailed

in table 6.

Total U.S. exports of aluminum for the first half of 1999 also increased (5%) compared with those for the same period in 1998.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to 68.6¢/lb in August. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBC's held steady at 48 to 50¢/lb during the month.

Publication of Interest

The Aluminum Association Inc. has released its Aluminum Statistical Review for 1998. The review contains information on every cycle of the aluminum production process from primary production to markets for finished goods to the recovery of aluminum scrap. Information on ordering a copy may be obtained by contacting the Association's Publications Department at (301) 645-0756 or by ordering directly from the Association's website at URL <http://www.aluminum.org>.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
1998 5/	3,713	1,950	1,500	3,440	2,400	649	3,050	10,200	1,930
1998:									
July	319	143	117	261	170	56	226	805	1,930
August	318	163	121	285	204	55	259	862	1,880
September	309	171	118	289	198	53	251	849	1,860
October	315	171	122	293	198	54	253	860	1,870
November	307	161	117	279	189	55	244	829	1,870
December	317	165	107	272	177	51	229	818	1,930
January-July	2,148	1,070	840	1,910	1,430	381	1,810	5,860	1,930
1999:									
January	315	163	107	270	191	58	248	833	1,860 r/
February	287	164	112	276	200	54	254	817	1,780 r/
March	320	181 r/	120	300	240	62	302	922	1,820 r/
April	309	181	113	295	311	63	374	977	1,810
May	319	174	118	292 r/	281	67	348	959 r/	1,810 r/
June	310	177	120	297 r/	258	63	321	928	1,810
July	319	172	119	290	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-July	2,179	1,210	807	2,020	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits, except "Primary production;" may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; 1998 data from Current Industrial Reports, Series M33D, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1999 data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
1998 2/	2,290	1,670	1,290	1,140	591	550	80	70	17	17	4,270	3,440
1998:												
July	161	122	106	93	46	43	1	1	1	1	315	261
August	173	131	114	101	48	45	8	7	1	1	344	285
September	173	133	106	94	58	54	8	7	1	1	346	289
October	176	135	115	102	50	46	10	9	1	1	351	293
November	175	134	106	94	46	42	8	7	(3/)	(3/)	335	279
December	170	129	105	94	45	42	8	7	1	1	328	272
January-July	1,170	890	759	674	324	300	44	39	4	4	2,300	1,910
1999:												
January	176	132	94	83	50	46	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	329 r/	270
February	178	134 r/	101	88	49	45	8	7	1	1	336 r/	276
March	190	142	112	99	55	51	8	7	1	1	366	300
April	179	135	111	99	56	52	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	356	295
May	181 r/	136 r/	113	99	52	48	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	355 r/	292 r/
June	180 r/	135 r/	116 r/	103 r/	55	51	9	8	1 r/	1 r/	360 r/	297 r/
July	179	134	113	100	54	50	6	5	1	1	353	290
January-July	1,260	950	760	671	372	345	58	51	3	3	2,460	2,020

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JULY 1999 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	149,000	179,000	112,000	134,000
Integrated aluminum companies	113,000	113,000	99,700	99,700
Independent mill fabricators	45,300	54,400	42,000	50,400
Foundries	4,990	5,990	4,470	5,360
Other consumers	432	519	432	519
Total	313,000	353,000	259,000	290,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN
JULY 1999 1/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 2/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing
New scrap:				
Solids	30,700 r/	90,500	90,200	31,000
Can stock clippings	4,900 r/	23,600	23,600	4,900
Other clippings	6,380 r/	9,010	9,060	6,330
Borings and turnings	10,600	26,200	25,900	10,900
Dross and skimmings	2,100 r/	38,800	38,700	2,200
Total new scrap	54,600 r/	188,000	187,000	55,300
Old scrap:				
Used casting, sheet, and clippings	11,700 r/	45,100	45,200	11,600
Aluminum-copper radiators	2,390 r/	2,070	2,050	2,420
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	27,900 r/	72,200	72,700	27,400
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	2,810 r/	4,640	4,640	2,810
Total old scrap	44,800 r/	124,000	125,000	44,200
Sweated pig	825 r/	1,100	1,100	825
Total all classes	100,000 r/	313,000	313,000	100,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS
IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 1999 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks, opening	Production July	Net shipments July	Stocks, closing	Production January- July 3/	Net shipments January- July 3/
Die cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,780	2,710	2,810	3,680	19,300	19,000
380 and variations	13,800 r/	46,900	46,900	13,800	335,000	334,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,840	3,220	3,220	2,840	22,900	23,000
No. 319 and variations	8,120	15,100	15,100	8,060	108,000	108,000
F-132 alloy and variations	1,700	4,460	4,460	1,700	29,600	29,700
Al-Zn alloys	447	1,420	1,420	447	9,960	10,500
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,180	1,180
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	77	77	--	539	539
Other 4/	4,780	12,700	11,800	5,680	87,000	85,400
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	4,930 r/	16,100	16,200	4,800	112,000	113,000
Total all alloys	40,500 r/	103,000	102,000	41,100	725,000	724,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	7,380	XX	XX	49,800	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	4,410	XX	XX	31,600	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	1,050	XX	XX	7,260	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	90,000	XX	XX	637,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous months.

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 1999 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January- June	June	January- June	June	January- June	June	January- June
Argentina	1,310	8,200	435	442	202	1,700	1,950	10,300
Australia	7,820	35,600	111	812	--	--	7,930	36,400
Bahrain	1,430	11,500	2,330	11,700	--	--	3,760	23,200
Belgium	--	--	362	2,190	48	48	409	2,230
Brazil	20,900	41,100	548	591	2,530	22,000	24,000	63,700
Canada	120,000	739,000	36,500	212,000	26,900	136,000	184,000	1,090,000
France	4	177	1,060	6,060	895	5,350	1,960	11,600
Germany	17	522	2,650	18,500	177	1,820	2,850	20,800
Ghana	--	--	415	890	--	--	415	890
Hungary	--	--	549	2,010	--	--	549	2,010
Italy	6	1,230	333	1,550	--	517	339	3,290
Japan	37	209	1,900	11,500	57	480	1,990	12,200
Korea, Republic of	--	--	2,620	12,100	--	--	2,620	12,100
Mexico	225	918	1,610	7,980	7,070	45,300	8,900	54,200
Netherlands	--	757	242	1,670	936	5,740	1,180	8,160
Norway	234	1,390	14	1,550	--	61	248	3,000
Russia	88,800	477,000	2,890	32,100	6,670	26,500	98,400	535,000
South Africa	--	11,500	437	1,600	29	29	466	13,100
Spain	5	106	343	1,890	243	1,330	591	3,320
Sweden	--	(2/)	329	1,870	--	62	329	1,940
Switzerland	--	1,040	47	362	--	258	47	1,660
Tajikistan	--	17,200	--	--	--	--	--	17,200
Ukraine	996	17,100	--	--	562	1,690	1,560	18,800
United Arab Emirates	358	8,990	--	--	426	1,540	785	10,500
United Kingdom	887	5,740	1,440	7,150	1,580	12,900	3,900	25,700
Venezuela	9,030	57,000	1,290	6,450	3,390	11,600	13,700	75,100
Other	5,640	45,000	4,240	22,800	4,330	23,300	14,200	91,200
Total	258,000	1,480,000	62,700	366,000	56,000	298,000	377,000	2,150,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 1999 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January-June	June	January-June	June	January-June	June	January-June
Australia	4	117	244	1,410	--	43	248	1,570
Belgium	--	32	1,040	6,680	19	38	1,060	6,750
Brazil	2	21	4,370	23,200	--	11	4,370	23,300
Canada	13,200	71,400	42,800	242,000	12,500	75,600	68,500	389,000
China	--	58	5,800	21,300	5,300	27,000	11,100	48,400
Dominican Republic	--	--	153	806	--	--	153	806
France	5	95	618	3,430	--	--	623	3,520
Germany	64	1,320	661	3,000	18	29	743	4,360
Hong Kong	32	288	607	2,360	1,970	15,600	2,610	18,300
India	--	214	8	123	23	635	31	972
Israel	5	90	245	1,560	17	55	267	1,710
Italy	41	80	201	1,300	--	43	242	1,420
Japan	4,520	29,400	446	5,780	2,070	18,500	7,030	53,600
Korea, Republic of	29	382	1,230	8,290	2,530	17,500	3,790	26,100
Malaysia	--	--	30	338	153	839	183	1,180
Mexico	9,510	39,100	12,100	68,400	5,270	24,800	26,900	132,000
Netherlands	--	92	113	695	10	16	123	803
Russia	--	4	(2/)	7	--	--	(2/)	11
Saudi Arabia	--	1	458	2,670	47	48	506	2,720
Singapore	--	33	124	757	--	1,110	124	1,900
Spain	--	--	61	680	9	26	70	705
Sweden	--	4	19	84	--	(2/)	19	88
Taiwan	104	304	1,100	5,520	3,950	18,700	5,150	24,500
Thailand	(2/)	54	202	1,810	--	3	202	1,870
United Kingdom	73	418	2,970	9,680	10	253	3,050	10,400
Venezuela	--	222	1,740	9,130	--	--	1,740	9,350
Other	145	1,110	3,750	23,300	336	3,050	4,230	27,400
Total	27,700	145,000	81,100	444,000	34,200	204,000	143,000	793,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.